



CITY OF MIAMI BEACH  
Office of the City Manager  
Letter to Commission No. 238-2004

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**To:** Mayor David Dermer and  
Members of the City Commission

**Date:** September 8, 2004

**From:** Jorge M. Gonzalez  
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jorge M. Gonzalez", written over the printed name.

**Subject:** Ficus Tree in Flamingo Park

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The purpose of this LTC is to follow-up on an E-mail I sent to you yesterday regarding the disposition of the downed ficus tree at Flamingo Park.

As a result of Hurricane Frances, a very large ficus tree in Flamingo Park was blown over. The tree is located at one of western accesses to the Park and adjacent to the Property Management yard.

The tree has been evaluated by the three staff professionals with tree expertise and an independent certified arborist. It is the consensus opinion that the tree can not be saved.

The tree has 65 to 70 percent of the root structure exposed and severed. To attempt to save the tree it would be required to spend approximately 15,000 to 18,000 dollars, with only a 50 percent chance of survival. More importantly, the tree would pose a hazard to pedestrians if pruned and re-stood.

In light of the costs and risks the tree will unfortunately have to be removed. We will continue to work to preserve those trees we can preserve which may have been damaged by the effects of Hurricane Frances.

JMG\ptw

C: Bob Middaugh, Assistant City Manager

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